

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: LENZ et al.

Attorney Docket No.:

Application No.: 09/634,806

LAM1P144/P0665

Filed: August 8, 2000

Examiner: ALEJANDRO MULERO,

Luz L.

Title: DEFORMATION REDUCTION AT THE

Group: 1763

MAIN CHAMBER

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Box RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 26, 2003

Signed:

Sue Funchess

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT C

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Box RCE Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2002 and the Advisory Action dated January 21, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims 1, 9, 12, 22, 23, and 28, add claims 29-32, and cancel claims 13, 20-21, and 27 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

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a vacuum chamber wall defining a main cavity and an opening;

BECEINED